JUL 1 ADEN

#31/9 P \ 645 901ga 7/20/3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Application Number | 09/117,447 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Filing Date | December 2,1998 |
| Inventor | LUBITZ et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 1645 |
| Examiner Name | N. Minnifield |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2923-397 |

July 14, 2003

Title of the Invention: RECOMBINANT EXPRESSION OF S-LAYER PROTEINS

RECEIVED

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

JUL 1 7 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated January 14, 2003, Applicants request entry of the amendments below and reconsideration of the application.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1.(Thrice Amended) A process for production of a crystalline S-layer protein comprising:
- (a) transforming a gram-negative prokaryotic host cell with a full length nucleic acid encoding an S-layer protein selected from the group consisting of
- (i) a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence from position 1 to 3684 of SEQ ID NO:1.
- (ii) a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO:2, and
- (iii) a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with at least one of the nucleic acid of (i) or (ii) under stringent conditions;